

Message Text

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51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O R 091925Z MAY 75
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9247
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 11819

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: AEMR, VS, FR
SUBJECT: RECOVERY OF REMAINS OF DEAD SAIGON MARINE
SECURITY GUARDS

REF: (A) STATE 107163 EXDIS (B) MANILA 5982 EXDIS

1. EMBOFF APPROACHED QUAI ACTING DIRECTOR FOR ASIA
BOLLE MAY 9 CONCERNING RECOVERY OF REMAINS OF TWO
MARINE SECURITY GUARDS (REFTELS). BOLLE EXPRESSED
SYMPATHY WITH U.S. DESIRE, BUT SAID QUAI CONSIDERED THAT
IT WAS ENTIRELY TOO SOON TO ATTEMPT THE HUMANITARIAN
PROJECT THE USG REQUESTED. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR WAS
BASICALLY UNABLE TO LEAVE HIS EMBASSY AND STILL HAD NO
CONTACTS WITH THE "SAIGON AUTHORITIES". IT WOULD BE
QUITE IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME TO CHECK AT THE 7TH DAY
ADVENTIST HOSPITAL. BOLLE COMMENTED THAT THE FRENCH
EXPECT THE SITUATION TO BECOME MORE CLEAR VERY SHORTLY
AND FRENCH EMBASSY SAIGON PERSONNEL WOULD BE ABLE TO
CIRCULATE TO ASCERTAIN THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE REMAINS
AND TO DETERMINE A MEANS FOR REPATRIATING THEM. BOLLE
WAS AWARE THAT ICRC IS STILL REPRESENTED IN SAIGON,
BUT MERILLON HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER IT
HAD CONTACT WITH A COMMUNIST RED CROSS ORGANIZATION AND
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HENCE WAS ABLE TO FUNCTION.

2. COMMENT: AS IN THE CASE OF THE LIST OF AMERICANS
IN SAIGON, THE GOF IS APPARENTLY VERY RELUCTANT TO BE
DIRECTLY AND PUBLICLY INVOLVED IN MATTERS CONCERNING THE
U.S. UNTIL IT IS ABLE TO REGULARIZE THE STATUS OF ITS
REPRESENTATION IN SVN. PERHAPS ICRC COULD BE MORE
EFFECTIVE AT THIS TIME.
RUSH

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